

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, WMO

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF US PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO
WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO)

1. DR. GEORGE S. BENTON, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE
US NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA),
HAS BEEN SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WITH THE CON-
CURRENCE OF NOAA, TO BECOME THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
FOR THE UNITED STATES TO THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZA-
TION. HE WILL REPLACE DR. ROBERT M. WHITE, WHO HAS
OCCUPIED THAT POSITION SINCE 1963.

2. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO CONVEY TO DR. ARTHUR DAVIES,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE WMO, THIS NEW DESIGNATION. WE
SUGGEST THAT TIMING OF THIS CHANGE, TO TAKE PLACE DURING
THE 30TH SESSION OF THE WMO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BE ARRANG-
ED WITH THE US DELEGATION TO THAT MEETING, TO TAKE INTO
ACCOUNT THE NEED TO MAINTAIN CONTINUITY IN OUR REPRESENTA-
TION ON THE COMMITTEE.

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3. A LETTER ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES IS SUGGESTED:

QUOTE MY GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED ME TO INFORM YOU THAT DR.
GEORGE S. BENTON, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE US NATION-
AL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, HAS BEEN

SELECTED TO SUCCEED DR. ROBERT M. WHITE AS THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE UNITED STATES TO THE WMO. DR.

ROBERT M. WHITE, WHO HAS SERVED IN THIS CAPACITY SINCE 1963, IS, AS YOU KNOW, NOW IN ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT. ON THIS OCCASION THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS ASKED ME TO ASSURE YOU OF THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE IMPORTANT PROGRAMS BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE WMO UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP. SINCERELY YOURS, AMBASSADOR WILLIAM J. VANDEN HEUVEL. END QUOTE.

4. MISSION MAY WISH TO ATTACH TO THE LETTER THE FOLLOWING BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF DR. GEORGE S. BENTON.
QUOTE. DR. GEORGE S. BENTON, ONE OF THE NATION'S LEADING

AUTHORITIES IN THE ATMOSPHERIC, OCEANIC AND HYDROLOGIC SCIENCES, IS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC SERVICES OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA). PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY IN 1969, BENTON RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR AND DOCTORATE DEGREES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, AND JOINED THE FACULTY AT JOHNS HOPKINS IN 1948. HE WAS APPOINTED PROFESSOR OF METEOROLOGY THERE IN 1957, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICS IN 1960. FOR THREE YEARS, FROM 1966 THROUGH 1969, HE WAS DIRECTOR OF THE RESEARCH LABORATORIES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, A PREDECESSOR AGENCY OF NOAA. IN 1970 HE RETURNED TO JOHNS HOPKINS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EARTH AND PLANETARY SCIENCES. HE BECAME DEAN
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OF THE DIVISION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES IN 1971, AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE HOMEWOOD DIVISIONS IN 1972. IN ADDITION TO GAINING AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR HIS ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES, BENTON IS PROFESSIONALLY RECOGNIZED FOR HIS RESEARCH, WHICH HAS BEEN PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH THE MECHANICS OF ROTATING AND STRATIFIED FLUID SYSTEMS, INCLUDING THE ATMOSPHERE AND THE OCEANS. DR. BENTON WAS BORN

SEPTEMBER 24, 1917 IN OAK PARK, ILLINOIS. END QUOTE.

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